

POL

27-9

BIAFRA-NIGERIA

6/10/69

STATE DEPARTMENT SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

☐ Retain classification ☐ Change/classify to \_\_\_\_\_  
☒ Declassify with concurrence of \_\_\_\_\_  
EO 12958, 25X  
FPC/HDR by WBF Date 3/15/86

Withdrawal No. \_\_\_\_\_

0396

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VN12958/503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05



*Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria*  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET 445

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05314 111821Z

45

ACTION SS 70

INFO OCT 01,SSD 00,CCO 00,USIE 00,CI,E 00,NSCE 00,DODE 00,1071 W  
065862

O P 111629Z JUN 69 ZFF-4  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7137  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION GENEVA  
CINCSRIKE

S E C R E T LAGOS 5314

LIMDIS

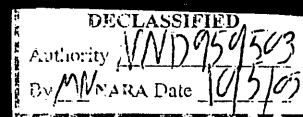
SUBJ: FMG ATTITUDE TOWARD RELIEF FLIGHTS

REF: STATE 9375918

*6/10-93759 Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria*  
1. ARIKPO RECEIVED ME THIS AFTERNOON AT CONCLUSION  
FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (FEC) MEETING. I SAID: USG  
DEEPLY CONCERNED AT SHOOTING DOWN OF ICRC AIRCRAFT  
AND IMPLICATIONS THIS DEVELOPMENT FOR FUTURE OF RELIEF  
AIRLIFT. I ASKED WHETHER FMG POLICY WAS STILL AS STATED  
BY GOWON TO FERGUSON AND OLSON ON JUNE 3 (LAGOS 5026).  
ARIKPO REPLIED THAT ISSUE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AT LENGTH  
IN FEC AND AGREEMENT REACHED THAT IN VIEW REBEL  
ACQUISITION AIR CAPABILITY FMG COULD NO LONGER PASSIVELY  
ACCEPT UNCONTROLLED FLIGHTS THROUGH ITS AIRSPACE. FEC  
THINKING WAS THAT TIME AND FLIGHT PATTERN OF EACH  
RELIEF FLIGHT WOULD HAVE TO BE NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE TO  
FMG. ANY AIRCRAFT NOT SO NOTIFIED WOULD BE REGARDED  
AS HOSTILE AND ATTEMPT MADE TO INTERCEPT. INTERCEPTOR  
WOULD SIGNAL SUCH AIRCRAFT TO FOLLOW TO FMG AIRFIELD  
AND WOULD ATTACK ONLY IF AIRCRAFT DISREGARDED SIGNAL.  
ARIKPO ADDED THAT DETAILS THESE ARRANGEMENTS BEING  
WORKED OUT AND THAT FMG HOPED MAKE ANNOUNCEMENT IN  
FEW DAYS.

SECRET 22

0397





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET

PAGE 02 LAGOS 05314 111821Z

2. I RESPONDED THAT THIS PROPOSED CHANGE FMG POLICY WOULD CREATE GREAT DIFFICULTIES FOR FMG AND FOR USG AND OTHER FRIENDS OF NIGERIA. I SAID I HAD ALREADY BEEN INSTRUCTED SEE GOWON ON THIS SUBJECT AND URGED ARIKPO TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENT BEFORE PROPOSED ANNOUNCEMENT MADE. ARIKPO REPLIED GOWON FULLY BOOKED JUNE 12 BUT WOULD SET UP MEETING JUNE 13. HE ASSURED ME ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL AFTER MEETING.

3. I TOLD ARIKPO USG HAD BEEN GREATLY DISTURBED BY FACT ICRC AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN LESS THAN THREE DAYS AFTER GOWON HAD ASSURED FERGUSON THAT AIRCRAFT WOULD NOT BE ATTACKED IN AIR. ARIKPO RESPONDED THAT GOWON AND HE TROUBLED BY SAME ASPECT. GOWON HAD COMMENTED TO ARIKPO THAT AMERICANS WOULD WONDER WHETHER

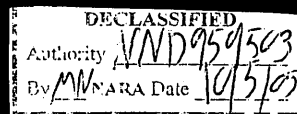
HE CONTROLLED NAF. I INTIMATED THAT SUCH QUESTIONS HAD BEEN RAISED IN WASHINGTON. I ASKED ARIKPO WHETHER THERE WOULD BE NO FURTHER ATTACKS IN AIR UNLESS AND UNTIL FMG ANNOUNCED NEW POLICY. HE SAID THERE WOULD NOT BUT I SENSED LACK OF CONFIDENCE ON HIS PART (SEE LAGOS 5290).

4. WHEN I MENTIONED MININFO STATEMENT OF JUNE 7, ARIKPO INTERRUPTED ME TO SAY THAT GOWON AND HE HAD BEEN DISMAYED OUR STATEMENT. EXTAFF HAD LEARNED MININFO PREPARING STATEMENT AND HAD TRIED WITHOUT SUCCESS TO PREVENT ISSUE. IN RESPONSE MY QUERY, ARIKPO SAID I COULD ASSURE USG ON BEHALF GOWON AND HIMSELF THAT STATEMENT WAS NOT RPT NOT EXPRESSION OF FMG POLICY OR ATTITUDE. ONE CONSEQUENCE THIS UNHAPPY OCCURRENCE HAD BEEN FEC AGREEMENT TODAY THAT ALL FUTURE STATEMENTS RE RELIEF AIRLIFT AND RELATED PROBLEMS WOULD BE MADE BY DODAN BARRACKS OR EXTAFF.

5. I POINTED OUT THAT USG CONCERN OVER SHOOTING DOWN ICRC AIRCRAFT WAS HEIGHTENED WHEN IT LEARNED AMCIT KILLED AND URGED THAT FMG ISSUE COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT SOONEST. ARIKPO RESPONDED FMG WANTED BE SURE OF FACTS BEFORE ISSUING ANY MORE STATEMENTS. INVESTIGATION WAS BEING PRESSED AND HE HOPED STATEMENT COULD BE MADE IN FEW DAYS. ARIKPO COMMENTED THAT NAF HAD REPORTED AIRCRAFT ATTACKED ONLY AFTER IT DISREGARDED SIGNAL BY INTERCEPTOR

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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TO FOLLOW AND LAND.

6. I ASK THAT DEPARTMENT REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL. GIVEN INFLAMED PUBLIC OPINION HERE AND STRONG CONVICTION WITHIN FMG THAT SOMETHING MUST BE DONE ABOUT NIGHT FLIGHTS, I DO NOT BELIEVE GOWON, EVEN IF HE WERE HIMSELF SO DISPOSED WHICH I DOUBT, COULD AGREE TO MAINTAIN STATUS QUO ON NIGHT FLIGHTS. WHILE DEPARTMENT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY SHARE EMBASSY DOUBT THAT FMG HAS TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CAPABILITY TO CARRY OUT ARRANGEMENTS IT NOW CONTEMPLATING, THESE ARRANGEMENTS AIM AT CONTROL RATHER THAN PROHIBITION RELIEF FLIGHTS. IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, I BELIEVE OUR MOST EFFECTIVE COURSE IS TO TRY TO GUIDE FMG IN DEVISING WORKABLE CONTROL PROCEDURES AND TO TRY TO CONVINCE ICRC AND JCA TO COOPERATE IN SUCH PROCEDURES.

GP-3. MATHEWS

SECRET

0399

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/3/05

L I M D I S  
I N C O M I N G

TOP SECRET  
POST Lagos  
SERIAL 5314

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1969 JUN 11 PM 3 26

DISTRIBUTION

MONTHLY COUNT

Secretariat

S/S-S 1  
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Principals and  
"S" Area

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Geographic

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NEA 8

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By MM NARA Date 10/3/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 373

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05310 111720Z

47  
ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, IO 13, EUR 17, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,  
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, UCF 05,  
UPW 01, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, /158 W  
065436

R 111526Z JUN 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7134  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
USMISSION USUN NY

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 5310

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF; UNICEF HELICOPTER OPERATION

1. ROBARDS, HEAD OF HELICOPTER OPERATION UNDER UNICEF CONTRACT, CALLED ON ECONOMIC COUNSELOR JUNE 10 TO ASK WHETHER EMBASSY HAD ANY INDICATION USG INTEREST IN CONTINUING HELICOPTER CONTRACT. WE SAID THAT TO BEST OUR KNOWLEDGE THERE NO RPT NO SUCH INTEREST.

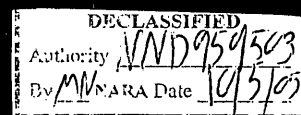
2. ROBARDS CURRENT UNICEF CONTRACT EXPIRES JUNE 27, ALTHOUGH HE CLAIMS HE HAS NOT RECEIVED THIRTY DAYS NOTICE REQUIRED FOR NON-RENEWAL. NONETHELESS, HE SAID IT CLEAR UNICEF NOT RENEWING CONTRACT. FYI LARSEN, UNICEF/LAGOS, INFORMS US PRESENT CONTRACT TO PROVIDE MINIMUM 20 FLIGHTS PER WEEK AT \$150 PER FLIGHT PLUS \$1500 WEEKLY EXPENSES HAS HARDLY BEEN USED BY ICRC WITH NO RPT NO FLIGHTS MADE DURING SOME WEEKS. ON THIS BASIS LARSEN HAS RECOMMENDED CANCELLATION OF CONTRACT ALTHOUGH HE HAS NOT YET RECEIVED FORMAL NOTIFICATION UNICEF INTENT.

3. AT PRESENT, ROBARDS FLEET CONSISTS OF ONE FH-1100 AND TWO H-19 MACHINES. ONE H-19 REPORTEDLY REQUIRES NEW ENGINE.

4. ROBARDS EVIDENTLY STILL TOYING WITH IDEA OPERATING

CONFIDENTIAL

0401





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 05310 111720Z

SIKORSKY FLYING CRANE HELICOPTER RELIEF CORRIDOR INTO REBEL ENCLAVE. HE SAID HE DISCUSSED PROPOSAL SEPARATELY WITH OTUE AND NWOKEDI IN NEW YORK AS WELL AS WITH OBGU, NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR UN, WITH FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE SERVING AS INTERMEDIARIES. BOTH SIDES APPEARED NON-COMMITTAL, ALTHOUGH "BIAFRANS" APPARENTLY EXPRESSED SOME INTEREST IN PURCHASE HELICOPTERS.

5. ROBARDS THEN ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TRAVEL INTO REBEL ENCLAVE ON ICRC FLIGHT FROM COTONOU IN FEW DAYS' TIME. ALTHOUGH HIS PERMIT ENTER "BIAFRA" ISSUED NEW YORK HAD EXPIRED TWO MONTHS AGO, HE BELIEVES IT CAN BE RENEWED COTONOU. ROBARDS SAID HIS TRAVEL "BIAFRA" WOULD BE ON PRIVATE BASIS QUOTE TO DETERMINE NEED FOR HELICOPTERS INSIDE BIAFRA UNQUOTE. AT LATER POINT, HE SAID HE WOULD CHECK OUT FEASIBILITY HELICOPTER RELIEF CORRIDOR PROPOSAL. ALTHOUGH HE WOULD NOT RPT NOT DISCUSS IT WITH REBEL OFFICIALS.

GP-4. MATHEWS

CONFIDENTIAL

21

0402

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Authority	VND959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05



(11)

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA 094852  
re POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

**OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State**

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

**SECRET**  
Classification

37 JUN 11 2025  
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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy COTONOU IMMEDIATE

Info:

INFO : USMission GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
Amembassy LONDON IMMEDIATE  
Amembassy LA GOS IMMEDIATE

STATE

LIMDIS

Subj: ICRC Airlift

1. Urgent Amb or ranking Emboff convey info para 2 to ICRC in confidence ASAP.
2. Info available to USG indicates high probability resumed flights ICRC subject to in-flight interception and on-strip interdiction. Info also indicates increased NAF capability carry out interception and interdiction.
3. ICRC Cotonou may be informed that substance of foregoing info also transmitted ICRC and JCA Geneva.
4. Embassy should also take steps to insure that Amcits flight crews are informed info para 2.
5. U/CF expects report ASAP operations.

ROGERS

(5)

Drafted by: CCFJ  
U/CF:CCFerguson, Jr.:sm  
Tel. Ext. 6215  
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: CCFJ  
U/CF - C. Clyde Ferguson, Jr.

Clearances:

AF/W - Mr. Melbourne  
AF - Amb. Moore  
S/S - Mr. Brown

**SECRET**  
Classification

FORM DS-322  
8-65

0403

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Authority: VMD 950503  
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05





POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 183

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01878 111529Z

51  
ACTION SS 70

INFO OCT 01, CIAE 00, /071 W

064789

P R 111512Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1614  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1878

LIMDIS

STATE FOR U/AMB FERGUSON FROM GUTMAN

FREY SHOWED ME CABLE ADDRESSED TO FREYMOND FROM STOCKHOLM (UNCLEAR WHETHER FROM GOS OR SWEDISH RC) ASKING WHETHER ICRC HAD REQUESTED INTERNATIONAL MILITARY OBSERVERS (ACCORDING FREY THIS REFERS TO "GENOCIDE" INVESTIGATION GROUP APPOINTED BY U THANT) TO JOIN INVESTIGATION INTO SWEDISH DC-7 INCIDENT. CABLE HAD BEEN REFERRED FREYMOND'S OFFICE TO FREY FOR ACTION WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS. FREY SAID HE WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND TO FREYMOND THAT THIS INTERNATIONAL TEAM BE ASSOCIATED WITH INVESTIGATION AND WAS DRAFTING REPLY TO STOCKHOLM AND INSTRUCTIONS TO ICRC/LAGOS ALONG THESE LINES FOR FREYMOND'S SIGNATURE.  
TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

0404

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Authority VND 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

L I M D I S  
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1969 JUN 11 PM 12 13

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MONTHLY COUNT

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Task Force

Principals and  
"S" Area

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Geographic

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EUR 10  
NEA 8

Functional

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Other

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USIA 4  
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Other

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POL 27-9 BIAPRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 266

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01882 111619Z

45  
ACTION SS 70

INFO OCT 01, CIAE 00, /071 W

065099

R 111600Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1618

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1882

LIMDIS

FOR U/AMB FERGUSON

1. FREY IN DEPRESSED MOOD TOLD GUTMAN VERY CONFIDENTIALLY HE HAD REASON BELIEVE "HOUSE" (I.E. ICRC ESTABLISHMENT GROUP) WAS GETTING READY TO "DITCH" LINDT. HE SHOWED GUTMAN CABLE FROM LINDT TO FREYMOND ASKING WHAT ACTION ICRC HAD TAKEN TO PUT OUT SPECIFIC DENIAL "SLANDEROUS" FMG STATEMENTS ACCUSING HIM OF ESPIONAGE, ETC. FREY WHO IS GREAT ADMIRER OF LINDT POINTED OUT THAT ICRC AFTER MUCH SOUL SEARCHING HAD ONLY PUT OUT BLANDLY WORDED STATEMENT WITHOUT REFERENCE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST LINDT (ALSO NOTE VERBALE TO BE DELIVERED BY HOFFMAN TO GOWAN DOES NOT MENTION LINDT).

2. COMMENT: ABOVE IS REPORTED FOR WHAT IT MAY BE WORTH. WE RECOGNIZE INFO INCONSISTENT WITH STATEMENT MADE BY FREYMOND TO AMB TUBBY ON JUNE 9 (GENEVA 1867). FREYMOND HOWEVER WAS VISIBLY ILL AT EASE WHEN DISCUSSING LINDT POSITION. THUS ABOVE INFO MAY BE STRAW IN WIND. LINDT'S CABLE ALSO JUSTIFIES SPECULATION WHETHER HE IS WILLING CONTINUE IN JOB WITHOUT SPECIFIC ICRC STATEMENT DENOUNCING ACCUSATIONS.  
TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

32

0406

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

TOP SECRET

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## MONTHLY COUNT

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Principals and  
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## Geographic

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EUR 10  
NEA 8

## Functional

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## Other

WH 10  
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USIA 4  
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## Other

ACDA 5  
AID/EXSEC 3  
AA/AFR 2  
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0407

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 451

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01895 111829Z

45  
ACTION SS: 70

INFO OCT 01, SSO 00, CIAE 00, CCO 00, USIE 00, NSCE 00, DODE 00, /071 W  
065925

O 111758Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1631

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1895

LIMDIS

FOR U/CF FERGUSON

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: TELECON TUBBY-FERGUSON

1. INFO RE POSSIBLE USE WING SIGNALS AND TONIGHT'S BAD FLYING WEATHER PASSED ON TO QUILLAN JCA DEPUTY CHIEF. HE WILL PHONE CHENARD AND GE. BERG IN LUCERNE. HOWEVER, GIVEN POOR PHONE AND CABLE COMMUNICATIONS WITH SAO TOME DOUBTS WHETHER INFO WILL ARRIVE SOON ENOUGH AFFECT TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE.

2. FREYMOND LIKEWISE ADVISED OF DANGERS AND TOLD COTONOU INFORMED.

3. FREYMOND MENTIONED HE HAD PHONED DEBRE'S DEPUTY IN CHARGE BIAFRA AND ADVISED ICRC MAY HAVE GIVE UP RELIEF EFFORT UNLESS OJUKWU CAN BE PERSUADED TO MAKE CONCESSIONS RE DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS AND WATER CORRIDOR. UK HAS INDICATED FULL SUPPORT ICRC POSITION. NAVILLE SEEING PRES. KAUNDA. FREYMOND TRYING SEE EMPEROR. HE WILL SEE DIALLO TELL TOMORROW.

4. FREYMOND UNDERSTANDS BIAFRA FOREIGN MINISTER IN LISBON AND IS TRYING GET HIM COME GENEVA. TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

32

GENEVA-1895  
6-11-69

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DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND959503  
By MWA Date 10/5/05

L I N D I S

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POST GENOVA

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1969 JUN 11 PM 3 26

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MONTHLY COUNT

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MilRep  
Digest  
Task Force

Principals and "S" Area

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Geographic

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EUR 10  
NEA 8

Functional

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Other

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CIA P  
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2/10/69

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Authority VND 959503  
By MM NARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET 885

PAGE 01 COTONO 00644 112308Z

85  
ACTION SS: 70

INFO OCT 01, CCO 00, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, /071 W  
067778

O P 112252Z JUN 69  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2189  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E I C R E I T COTONOU 644

LIMDIS:

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
XN POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

REF STATE 94852 AND LAGOS 5290

ON RECEIPT LAGOS 5290, INFORMED WACHMEISTER (ICRC) OF HIGH  
PROBABILITY ICRC FLIGHTS BEING SUBJECT INTERCEPTION AND  
GROUND ATTACKS. ALL FLIGHTS FROM COTONOU CANCELLED NIGHT  
JUNE 11/12. WILL PASS ON INFO PARA 2 TO AMCIT FLIGHT CREWS  
JUNE 12. CLINGERMAN

Cotonou 644  
6-11-69

SECRET

77

0410

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05



L I M D I S  
I N C O M I N G

TOP SECRET

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(Time Received)

SERIAL 644

1969 JUN 11 PM 10 16

DISTRIBUTION

MONTHLY COUNT

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Principals and  
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Geographic

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ARA 9  
EA 11  
EUR 10  
NEA 8

Functional

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AA/AFR 2  
AA/VN 2  
AA/EA 3  
AA/NESA 2

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Burned

2/10/69

0411

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 954/503  
By MNA Date 10/5/05

75



INDICATE:  
☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE *PC 27-9 BIAFRA*  
Classification  
Department of State *NIGERIA* *094961*  
**TELEGRAM**

*[Handwritten signature]*

11 JUN 69 21 16z

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION: US Mission GENEVA. → IMMEDIATE  
INFO: Amembassy LAGOS  
STATE Amembassy COTONOU

REF: State 94852

1. Instruct Schott to deliver USG warning to JCA high risk interception resumed flights. Request JCA insure that Amcits are informed of risk.
2. USG not prepared to advise JCA to suspend lift. That decision strictly for JCA.

End.

ROGERS

DRAFTED BY: *U/CF:CC Ferguson:sm* *cmh* DRAFTING DATE: 6/11/69 TEL. EXT. 6215 APPROVED BY: *U/CF - C. Clyde Ferguson, Jr.* *cmh*

CLEARANCES:

AF/W - Mr. Melbourne *per*  
AF - Amb. Moore *Ham*

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FORM DS-322  
4-68

0412

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority *VND 954503*  
By *MW* NARA Date *10/5/05*

66  
OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED  
Classification

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

ARTTEL 9 US

094560

1 JUN 69 15 47z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LONDON  
PARIS  
Amconsul IBADAN  
KADUNA

JOINT STATE/USIA MESSAGE

SUBJECT: CBS TV Show

REF: Lagos 5177

1. CBS program called Sixty Minutes June 10 devoted 30 to Nigeria/Biafra.

Format was almost exactly even alternating Mike Wallace in/for Nigeria and

Harry Reasoner in/for Biafra. Following brief summary:

2. Reasoner: clips Biafrans working, farming, children all singing "thank you, Ojukwu," says Biafra exhibits spirit, partly out of fear. MG Phillip Effiong says: "If they (Nigerians) will control everything, will really go to town, murder everything in sight." Effiong only Biafran personality appearing in show and just this once.

3. Wallace; In Lagos hardly uniform in sight, no shortages or starvation, no real mobilization. Shot of Moslem prayers, Unibadan students heading for finals, no student draft, shot of war wrecked towns in east never seen by most Nigerians, posters "To Keep Nigeria one is task that must be done."

General Gowon, who appears three times: we are fighting brothers, not enemies, is why we call them rebels.

Drafted by:

AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 6/11/69

Tel. Ext.

2105

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

AF/P:RLPerkins

Clearances:

AF/W - Mr. Melbourne

USIA/IAA:Mr. Sugden/Mr. Ross

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8-65

0413

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Authority VND 954503  
By MWA Date 10/5/05

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Origin  
Info:

ACTION: Page 2 of tel to Amembassy LAGOS

4. Brief historical perspective, Nigeria a UK colonial creation. Ibos became most powerful economic group, wanted political power. Course of coups described. Estimates of Ibos killed in north range from 7 to 30 thousand. Biafra reduced in war from 50 to three thousand square miles.
5. Reasoner at Okwala Junction, 25 miles from Port Harcourt. Shots of tattered soldiers, great variety weapons, much captured from Nigerian army, lack of ammunition. This group advanced six miles in week, halted await further ammo. Forty-five to 60 thousand in Biafran army, shot of recruits marching to tune of "Margie," basic training effective. Ten-year-old interviewed saying Biafra fighting for survival, will win. Reasoner comment success so far due Biafran spirit and "what must be massive ineptitude Nigerian Army."
6. Wallace: Nigerian army one of distinction pre-war, has exploded 14 times previous size to 85,000, minus Ibo cadres. Now six weeks recruit training vs. six months prewar. Motivation individual soldier keep Nigeria one not as urgent as Biafran survival motive. Many join for good job, perquisites. Leaders not aggressive. Most success due lopsided superiority firepower. Some observer: only partly joking says feds use ammo as ~~defoliant~~ defoliant. Shots of Migs on strips, mention Egyptian pilots. War bloody, heavy

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Clearances:		

UNCLASSIFIED  
Classification

FORM DS-322  
8-65

0414

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Authority VND959503  
By MM NARA Date 10/5/03

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

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Origin	ACTION: Page 3 of tel to Amembassy LAGOS
Info:	<p>casualties both sides. Feds release no casualty figures but a doctor told Wallace 8,000 fed dead; 25,000 wounded so far. Only 11 army doctors for 85,000 troops. No medals for feds. Gen Gowon says this deliberate: we would hate after war have feeling of having conquered. Not question of conquering but of bringing Biafra back into Nigeria.</p> <p>7. Reasoner: not so many starving as early in war, thanks airlift. Feeding centers, one meal daily six days a week. <del>Re</del> Death rate perhaps 600 week down from several thousand, but children still die, with film shots of pathetic children. Father Kevin Dougherty interviewed in clinic, asked how many died, says he no statistician but it clear "we are starting into our second million." Shots of Biafran land army breaking virgin land, planting corn, rice melons. Reasoner says any break in airlift or serious failure crops, means many more will die, shot of crosses in graveyard.</p> <p>8. Wallace: shot of well known healthy baby billboard. But babies were not healthy throughout Nigeria prewar when one third died - Nigerians ask where was world's conscience then. Gen Gowon: I have nothing to hide, I have a conscience, I have moral standards. We have no intention have Biafrans starve. War was forced on us, must be fought for good of country. Shot of busy Lagos harbor, Nigeria 12th oil producer in world, eventually 5th or 6th.</p>
Drafted by:	Tel. Ext. Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:
Clearances:	

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Classification

FORM DS-322  
8-65

0415

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: VMD 959503  
By: M/MARA Date: 10/5/03

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

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Origin

ACTION: Page 4 of tel to Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

Oil triggered last ditch French aid Biafra, oil counted on by FMG for reconstruction, now bringing \$300 million in revenue.

9. Reasoner: shot of Biafran backyard gasoline refineries, which number 50 to 100, heavy traffic on roads, no real transport shortage, staggering normalcy life in Biafra. Prices up, clothing tripled, \$20 pack cigarettes, courts holding trials in bush. Shots of Owerri cleanup, food markets, thanksgiving mass held in unfinished cathedral by European priest.

10. Wallace: abandoned cities recaptured by feds echo to wind. Shots Enugu, Abakaliki, Onitsha. Ibo divinity student Abakaliki who stayed behind while parents in Biafra said we like Jews, being punished for putting God last, material things first. Wallace: Nowhere more punished than Onitsha, shots of market "which retreating Biafrans burned," not building unscarred, fallen statue Azikiwe, who now lives in London, Niger bridge blown up by Biafrans.

11. Summation by both. Reasoner has ~~impossible~~ impression reconciliation seen as impossible in Biafra. They demand referendum in retaken territories. Many observers think they would settle for less. Wallace: clear genocide is not aim of FMG leaders. Nigerians impatient slow pace of war, stung by raids Swedish-led Biafran air force. Gowon promised him all out effort take out

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

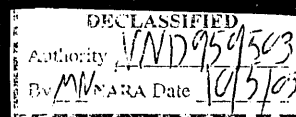
Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

Clearances:

UNCLASSIFIED  
Classification

FORM  
8-65 DS-322

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# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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*Classification*

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Origin

ACTION: Page 5 of tel to Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

airstrips. Reasoner: will take genuine effort of major powers or UN bring negotiations, must be guarantees for Ibos. Wallace: US could take lead, not politically involved. But there little inclination US or other major powers to step in; their interests lie elsewhere.

12. Comment follows septel.

END

[ROGERS]

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

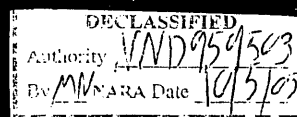
Clearances:

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FORM DS-322  
8-65

0417





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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

094561

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11 JUN 69 1540z

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# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
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Classification

Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info: INFO: Amembassy LONDON  
PARIS  
Amconsul IBADAN  
KADUNA

JOINT STATE/USIA MESSAGE

SUBJECT: ~~USIA/STATE~~ Comment on CBS Show

REF: STATE 094560 *Handwritten: 10/5/69*

1. Producers have promised Dept print of film and transcript, which will be pouched Lagos on receipt probably early next week. Print will arrive without studio comment of Wallace and Reasoner, which will be contained in transcript and can be read as film projected. Producer has no objection private showing selected Nigerian officials but requests it not be "shown around generally."
2. Obviously will be certain matter FMG will find objectionable: indication FMG military ineptitude, lesser motivation Nigerian soldiers, business as usual in Nigeria vs. apparent dedication Biafrans.
3. On plus side: Gowon came through well with no official counterpart Biafran viewpoint. Ojukwu not in film. Point made food shortages not as acute as generally believed abroad. Object was to present reasonably balanced account both sides, which in itself some accomplishment from Lagos viewpoint. Argument might be made this effort shows value increasing FMG cooperation with foreign media people. Obviously impossible in thirty minutes go into all ramifications

Drafted by:

AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 6/11/69

Tel. Ext.  
2105

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

AF/P:RLPerkins

Cleavances:

AF/W - Mr. Melbourne *Handwritten: RWP*

USIA/IAA - Mr. Sugden/Mr. Ross: *Handwritten: SS/RWP*

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Authority VND 954503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

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Origin  
Info:

ACTION: Page 2 of tel to Amembassy LAGOS

this complex situation and might well be over viewing public head if tried.

4. No prediction included by Gowon or others of duration of war.

END

ROGERS

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Clearances:		

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8-65

0419

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Authority VIND 950503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05

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11 JUN 69 23 28  
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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL  
Classification

Origin ACTION: AmEmbassy LAGOS  
Info INFO: AmConsul KADUNA  
AmCONSUL IBADAN  
AmEmbassy LONDON

STATE

on  
SUBJECT: Nigerian Ambassador Call ~~xx~~ Department

1. Ambassador Iyalla ~~xxxx~~ called on Department June 10 to report he returning to Lagos arriving June 17 for consultation.
2. Iyalla also said he instructed to apologize "orally" for FMG press statement issued June 7 in Lagos criticizing USG statement June 6 deploring attack on ICRC DG-7. According Iyalla, MinInfo issued first statement in angry reaction to initial misleading press report of USG statement. When true version of statement received Lagos from Iyalla, "better" official release was made by FMG. Iyalla said he would write letter to editor if any US papers carried erroneous first statement.
3. Re case of Nigerian student Okpokam who sentenced to one to five years in San Francisco for possession of bomb (Lagos 5231 press summary), Iyalla said he embarrassed by letter written to student's attorney by Nigerian Consul-General in New York. Letter said FMG

Drafted by: AF/W:RJWach:nb 6/11/69

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

AF/W:RMMelbourne *Rm*

Clearances GU/PPE:Mr. Chartrand (in substance) *pc*

U/CF:Amb. Ferguson (in substance) *pc*

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8-65

0420

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Authority VND 954503  
By MWA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAPRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET 127

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01877 111506Z

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ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, ID 13, AF 12, EUR 17, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20,

RSR 01, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, CCO 00, /140 W  
064650

O 111450Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1613

SECRET GENEVA 1877

U/FERGUSON FROM AMBASSADOR TUBBY

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF - NIGHT FLIGHTS

REF: LAGOS 5290; LAGOS DATT 0256

REQUEST AUTHORITY BRING SANITIZED SUMMARY OF REFTELS AT ONCE TO  
ATTENTION ICRC FREYMOND AND CHENARD/JCA ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS.  
ALSO ASSUME COTONOU IS AUTHORIZED PASS ON APPLICABLE INFO  
(SIGNALS BY FMG PILOTS) TO ICRC CREWS ESPECIALLY ICELANDIC PLANE  
WHICH IS ONLY ONE SCHEDULED TO FLY TONIGHT. HOWEVER, JCA EXPECTS  
MAKE EIGHT OR MORE SORTIES. TUBBY

SECRET  
32

0421

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MVA
Date	10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 258

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01881 111609Z

43  
ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, AF 12, IO 13, UPW 01, AID 28, SCA 01, SCS 04, SR 01, ORM 03,

EUR 17, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 152 W  
065048

R 111556Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1617  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 1881

STATE FOR U/CF:

ACCORDING JCA GENEVA THEY MADE EIGHT FLIGHTS ON JUNE 9. FYI ONLY:  
DUE TO FULL MOON PHASE FLIGHT PATTERN HAS BEEN CHANGED. PLANES  
TAKE OFF LATER, FLY VIA PRINCEPI ISLAND, HOLD OVER ISLAND UNTIL  
PRECEDING FLIGHT RETURNS FROM ULI.  
TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

0422

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND954503  
By MNA Date 10/5/05

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POC 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01886 111800Z

45  
ACTION: UCF 05

INFO: OCT 01, IO 13, AF 12, EUR 17, SR 01, ORM 03, UPW 01, SCS 04, SCA 01, E 13,

AID 28, TRSY 11, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, PI 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, IGA 02, RSR 01, 180 W  
065704

P 111716Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1622

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 1886

STATE FOR U/CF AND AID/NIGERIA HELEN WILSON

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF - ICRC BUDGET

HAVE JUST OBTAINED MAY FIGURES ICRC OPERATIONS NIGERIA AND  
BIAFRA COMPARING BUDGET PROVISIONS WITH ACTUAL EXPENDITURES  
(IN MILLION SWISS FRANCS):

	NIGERIA		BIAFRA	
	BUDGET	EST. EXP.	BUDGET	EST. EXP.
OPERATING EXPENSES: (PERS. & DEL. OVERHEADS)	1.20	1.10	0.65	0.60
TRANSPORTS:				
A) AIR	0.30	0.15	3.50	5.50
B) SEA	0.40	0.70	--	--
C) ROAD	3.00	0.60	0.30	0.40
D) RAIL	0.30	0.02	--	--
	4.00	1.47	3.80	5.90
FIXTURES (PREMISES) AND EQUIPMENT				

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0423

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Authority VND 959503  
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01886 111800Z

A) VEHICLES:	0.20	--	--	--
B) FIXTURES:	0.10	0.03	0.05	0.01
	--	--	--	--
	0.30	0.03	0.05	0.01

RELIEF:

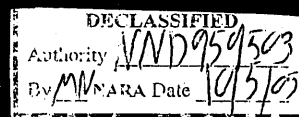
A) FOOD:	2.50	1.50	--	0.10
B) MEDICAL SUPPLIES:	0.50	0.50	1.00	0.79
	--	--	--	--
	3.00	2.00	1.00	0.89

TOTAL:	8.50	4.60	5.50	7.40
--------	------	------	------	------

GRAND TOTAL 14 MILLION BUDGETED 12 MILLION SPENT. NOTE: EXPENDITURE FIGURES ARE REASONABLY REFINED ESTIMATES. FINAL FIGURES WILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER USUAL AUDIT IN THREE OR FOUR WEEKS.  
TUBBY

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0424





75



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 441

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01887 111802Z

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ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, IO 13, AF 12, EUR 17, AID 28, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01,

RSR 01, /085 W

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065747

R 111716Z JUN 69

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1623

UNCLAS GENEVA 1887

STATE PASS U/CF DAVIDSON AND AID/NIGERIA DESK

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

AGRICULTURAL SURVEY REPORT READY. WILL POUCH TOMORROW.  
TUBBY

GENEVA - 1887  
6-11-69

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0425

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority VND 959503  
By MNARA Date 10/5/03

25



PO L 27-9 BIAPRA -  
Department of State  
NIGERIA **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01888 111802Z

43  
ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, AF 12, IO 13, EUR 17, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, UPW 01, SCA 01,

SCS 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, /152 W  
----- 065733

R 111716Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1624  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 1888

STATE FOR U/CF

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

ICRC JUST CONFIRMED ICELANDIC PLANE MADE TWO RUNS FROM COTONOU  
LAST NIGHT CARRYING TOTAL OF 25 TONS. ICELAND TRANSPORT PLANE  
AGAIN EXPECTED TO FLY TONIGHT. AS REPORTED YESTERDAY BALAIR WILL  
NOT FLY PENDING ICRC MEETING WITH THEM TOMORROW AFTERNOON.  
TUBBY

GENEVA-1888  
6-11-69

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0426

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Authority VND 959503  
By MVA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01890 111900Z

87

ACTION: UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SCA 01, SCS 04, SR 01,

ORM 03, AID 28, UPW 01, EUR 17, HEW 07, RSR 01, 147 W  
----- 066166

R 111800Z JUN 69

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1626

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FOR U/CF

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF - MEDICAL SUPPLIES

1. ICRC BUDGETS 1 MILLION SFR. PER MONTH FOR MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR BIAFRA AND 500,000 SFR. FOR NIGERIA. NIGERIA FUNDS ARE SPENT ALMOST ENTIRELY ON LOCALLY PROCURED DRUGS AND SUPPLIES. BIAFRA REQUIREMENTS ARE COORDINATED BY ICRC/GENEVA. CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND BY NATIONAL RC SOCIETIES ARE MOSTLY SHIPPED TO GENEVA, THEN AIR FREIGHTED TO COTONOU AND MOVED ON TO BIAFRA ASAP. THERE ARE NO STOCKS IN COTONOU EXCEPT DURING FIRST TEN DAYS OF EACH CALENDAR MONTH WHEN THIRTY DAYS SUPPLIES ARE FLOWN IN FOR ONWARD AIRLIFT TO BIAFRA. SANTA ISABEL IS NOT REPEAT NOT USED FOR MEDICAL SUPPLY RELIEF. ICRC RECEIVES GENERALLY 100,000 DM WORTH SUPPLIES MONTHLY FROM GERMAN RC AND SPORADICALLY ASSISTANCE FROM FINNISH AND OTHER RC SOCIETIES. ENTIRE MAY REQUIREMENTS WERE FURNISHED BY DANISH RED CROSS. OVER PAST MONTHS COMPOSITION DRUG REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN STANDARDIZED, VARIATION BEING LIMITED GENERALLY TO QUANTITY. POUCHING APRIL LIST (LAST AVAILABLE) TO U/CF ATTN. DAVIDSON.

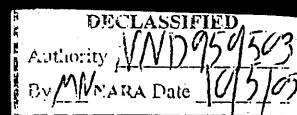
2. DETAILED MEDICAL SUPPLY NEEDS NEXT SIX MONTHS WILL BE DISCUSSED BY ICRC AT ACCRA BY JCA AT LUCERNE CONFERENCE.

3. "BIAFRA RED CROSS PRESIDENT" ILO RECENTLY REQUESTED DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO HIS ORGANIZATION IN FORM FIELD HOSPITALS, SURGICAL

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GENEVA-1890  
6-11-69

0427





Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01890 111900Z

EQUIPMENT, LARGE REPEAT LARGE FIRST AID KITS. ICRC OFFICIALS BELIEVE THESE REQUESTS WERE LARGELY FOR MILITARY CASUALTIES AS ILO SPOKE ABOUT HIGH MORTALITY RATE FROM ABDOMINAL WOUNDS. HE DID NOT GIVE SPECIFICS EXCEPT SPEAK OF THOUSANDS OF LARGE FIRST AID KITS.

4. CHIEF PHARMACIST OF BIAFRAN MINHEALTH HANDED AMMANN LAST JANUARY A LONG LIST OF DRUGS, DRESSINGS AND EQUIPMENT NEEDS. POUCHING LIST TO UYCF ATTENTION DAVIDSON. TUBBY

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MW NARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01891 111914Z

92  
ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, AF 12, EUR 17, IO 13, SCS 04, SCA 01, IGA 02, E 15, SFW 02,

INT 06, AID 28, SS 20, NSC 10, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04,

RSC 01, USIA 12, (SR 01), UPW 01, SR 01, ORM 03, /166 W  
066330

R 111800Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1627  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 1891

STATE FOR U/CF AND AID/NIGERIA HELEN WILSON

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF - STOCKFISH

1. ICRC/AMMANN HAS INQUIRED RE U.S. DECISION FUNDING ADDITIONAL ICELANDIC STOCKFISH. HAVE DISCUSSED WITH HIM IN DETAIL JCA DATA OBTAINED STUTTGART (DAVISON HAND CARRIED NOTES) AND EFFECTS PRESENT REDUCTION AIRLIFT TONNAGE INTO ULI. ON OTHER HAND HE POINTS OUT ICRC TEAMS IN FMG AREA HAVE REQUESTED ADDITIONAL ANIMAL PROTEIN AND REDUCTION CARBOHYDRATE RELIEF SUPPLIES. CONSIDERING ABOVE (INCLUDING JCA ACCEPTANCE OF 2,500 TONS RATHER THAN 1,500 TONS FROM NORWAY AND 500 TONS FROM GERMAN SOURCES) AMMANN AGREES GAP REQUIREMENTS IN 1,000-1,500 TONS RANGE FOR BIAFRA AND LAGOS COMBINED PROVIDED OF COURSE CANADIANS COME THROUGH. (ICRC HAS NO REPEAT NO NEWS FROM TORONTO. MAYBE U.S. EMBASSY COULD OBTAIN SOME INFO).

2. AMMANN HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH ROBINSON/FAO RE WFP CONTRIBUTION. WFP WILL CONTRIBUTE BUT QUANTITY YET TO BE DETERMINED. THEY WILL MEET AROUND JULY 1 IN ROME OR GENEVA FOR DETAILED DISCUSSIONS THIS AND OTHER PROBLEMS. TUBBY

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By MVA/ARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 621

PAGE 01 THE HA 02276 111859Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SCS 04,

SCA 01, UPW 01, UCF 05, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, 158 W  
----- 066160

R 111630Z JUN 69  
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4074  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY BERN UNN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS UNN  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG UNN  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA UNN  
AMEMBASSY BIDJAN UNN  
AMEMBASSY PARIS UNN  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA UNN  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN UNN  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI UNN  
USUN NEW YORK UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 2276

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF--HAGUE GROUP:

REF: HAGUE 2186 (NOTAL)

1. MFA HAS NOW RESCHEDULED FIFTH HAGUE GROUP MEETING FOR  
10 A.M. JUNE 23, SUBJECT TO FAVORABLE RESPONSE FROM GROUP  
MEMBERS. PAPER ON SURFACE CORRIDORS AND NORWEGIAN NOTE (HAGUE 1919)  
WHICH DISTRIBUTED IN PREPARATION FOR MEETING ORIGINALLY

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PAGE 02 THE HA 02276 111859Z

SCHEDULED JUNE 5 REMAIN BASIS FOR DISCUSSIONS.

2. IN VIEW TIGHTNESS OF HOTEL SITUATION, WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING SOONEST WHO WILL REPRESENT U.S.

3. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE RECEIVING SOONEST DOCUMENTATION MENTIONED PARA. 3 REFTELAJN PLUS ANY STATEMENT DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO DISTRIBUTE ON U.S. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (HAGUE 2024).

GP4 TYLER

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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*Cotonou 634*  
*6-11-69*

PAGE 01 COTONOU 00634 111405Z

46  
ACTION: UCF 05

INFO: OCT 01, AF 12, EUR 17, IO 13, UPW 01, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03,

AID 28, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, SSO 00, 152 W  
----- 064277

P R 110942Z JUN 69  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2180  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 634

FOR FERGUSON FROM DAWSON

SUBJECT: RSM - RENEWED FLIGHTS BY ICRC AIRCRAFT

1. ICELANDIC A/C MADE TWO UNEVENTFUL TRIPS ULI NIGHT OF JUNE 10/11. AT PRESENT THIS IS ONLY ICRC AIRCRAFT WITH BIAFRAN PERMISSION TO FLY UNTIL OLD CODES, POSSIBLY COM- PROMISED BY DC-7 CRASH, ACCOUNTED FOR AND REPORT TURNED INTO BAF BY ICRC.

2. HEAD OF MOVEMENT CONTROL ULI, GULLMAR ANDERSSON, FLEW TO COTONOU AND HAS REPORTED GENERAL SITUATION: TWO WEEKS RELIEF SUPPLIES LEFT, ONE MONTH "PERSONAL" FOOD, MORALE GOOD. GAS WAS ONE COMMODITY IN SHORT SUPPLY BUT A/C DRAINED AND GAS RESERVES REPLENISHED.

3. CHURCH CUT DOWN BUT DID NOT DISCONTINUE FLIGHTS TO ULI. FRENCH RED CROSS LIBREVILLE ALSO CONTINUED FLIGHTS AS DID ARMS AIRCRAFT. SINCE NIGHT OF 5/6 JUNE THERE HAVE BEEN MJ# ATTACKS ULI OR UGA AND NO HARASSMENT OF AIRCRAFT.

4. MILITARY: UMUAHIA AREA MILITARY BEING BUILT UP. CITY VIRTUALLY CUT OFF AND SUPPLIES TO REPORTEDLY 3,000 FEDERAL TROOPS CARRIED IN THROUGH BUSH. BIAFRANS CLAIM THEY WITHIN 10

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PAGE 02 COTONO 00634 111405Z

MILES PORT HARCOURT AND APPEARS THEY CONTINUING PUSH ON ONITSHA.

5. COMMENT: NIGHT JUNE 5/6 DC-7 INTERCEPTED APPROX 1750Z ALMOST ON COAST. BY 1756Z THEY RADIOED MAYDAY. ENGINE FIRE. ALTHOUGH THIS FROM BAF AND ULI TOWER SOURCES. APPEARS TO ADD CREDENCE TO NIGERIAN VERSION OF INTERCEPTION DUE 02 TIME LAPSE. IMPORTANT POINT, OF COURSE, THAT ALL THIS IN BROAD DAYLIGHT. KNOX

NOTE: # AS RECEIVED.

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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6-11-69 5318

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05318 121704Z

44  
ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, UPW 01,  
UCF 05, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07,  
L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, /146 W  
-----072596

P R 111715Z JUN 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7140  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5318

SUBJ: FMG AND ICRC

1. IN MEETING WITH ARIKPO THIS AFTERNOON, I EXPRESSED  
DISMAY AT ANTI-ICRC CAMPAIGN IN NIGERIAN MEDIA. ARIKPO  
AGREED THIS MOST UNFORTUNATE BUT PLACED BLAME ON LINDT  
WHO WAS WRONG MAN TO DEAL WITH AFRICANS. ARIKPO SAID  
FMG HAD ASKED ICRC TO WITHDRAW LINDT FROM NIGERIAN  
OPERATION.

2. I REMARKED I HAD HEARD COLONEL HOFFMAN OF ICRC  
MIGHT BE MAKING TRIP TO NIGERIA. ARIKPO SAID FMG WOULD  
BE GLAD TO RECEIVE HOFFMAN. ALTHOUGH FMG HAD HAD  
MISUNDERSTANDING WITH HOFFMAN OVER LATTER'S ACTIVITIES  
IN KAMPALA SOME TIME AGO. THEY CONSIDERED HIM STRAIGHTFORWARD  
MAN WITH WHOM THEY COULD DO BUSINESS.

GP-4. MATHEWS

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By	MMARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
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# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

15 B  
10 JUN 69 20 36Z  
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Origin  
Info:

ACTION: AMEmbassy LAGOS PRIORITY

INFO: AMEmbassy LONDON  
AMEmbassy Geneva

STATE

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE

SUBJ: FMG Ability to Intercept flights

REF: Geneva 1835

Request Embassy ascertain views of UK HICOMER and UK Defense

Adviser re possible future ability of FMG to intercept night flights  
of both relief and arms planes. For example, attack on DC-7 June 5  
apparently made in daylight. Can NAF intercept in darkness?

END

ROGERS

3

Drafted by:	AF/W:BJWach:nb 6/10/69	Tel. Ext.	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:
Clearances:	AF/W:RMMelbourne DOD/ISA:Col. Hamilton		

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Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0435

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Authority VND 954503  
By MWA Date 10/5/03

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INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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10 JUN 69 15 25  
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Origin

Info

ACTION: AmEmbassy, LAGOS ~~XXXXXXXX~~ IMMEDIATE

INFO: AmEmbassy, ADDIS ABABA

" , COTONOU

" , LISBON

" , LONDON

USMission, GENEVA

REF: a) Lagos 5026; b) Lagos 5102; c) Lagos 5164

SUBJECT: FMG Attitude Toward Relief Flights

1. While recognizing FMG statement transmitted ref c apparently drafted by MinInfo officials and perhaps not rpt not cleared with Extstaff or higher echelon officials, Dept nevertheless ~~MinInfo officials and perhaps not rpt not cleared with Extstaff or higher echelon officials, Dept nevertheless~~ concerned at tone and content. We particularly disturbed by extent to which shooting down of aircraft and June 7 statement conflict with assurances given Amb. Ferguson by Gowon that there had been no policy change which might lead to relief planes being attacked in air and that notice would be given all concerned should there be such change (refs a and b). While leaving to your discretion whether to pave way with Arikpo 2./ You should ~~therefore~~ seek early appointment with Gowon and (a) state that we are surprised while we do not wish enter public debate on matter, ~~express surprise~~ at June 7 statement, particularly its references to qte double standards and hypocrisy. We find it difficult to believe these represent official views of FMG. Quite apart from this, we seriously concerned over implications of last para of statement in light previous assurances given Ferguson; (b) explain our deep

Drafted by: *RL*  
AF/W:RPSmith:bg 6/9/69

Tel. Ext.

6402

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

AF - Joseph Palmer 2nd *JP*

Clearances:  
AF - Ambassador Moore *W*

U/CF - Ambassador Ferguson *df*

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8-65

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By MVA Date 10/5/03

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Origin

ACTION: AmEmbassy, LAGOS ~~PRIORITY~~

Info:

concern at shooting down of ICRC aircraft (heightened by presence Amcit pilot among crew of downed plane) in light those same assurances; (c) seek categorical ~~re~~ re-statement from Gowon of his position that relief flights into Biafra would not rpt not be subject to interdiction in the air by military aircraft; (d) state that we recognize, as our June 6 statement made clear, problem caused by intermingling of arms flights and relief flights and danger of confusion this causes. However, interdiction of relief flights in air by NAF can only do grave damage to FMG in long run. We therefore continue to hope Gowon will adhere to policy he stated to Ferguson and insist on strict compliance by military and NAF units in field.

3. FYI: Joint Embassy-Datt message 0256 just received adds even greater urgency to above, especially to importance of Gowon's insuring that all military and NAF units comply with his orders. end FYI  
GP-1

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Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

Clearances:

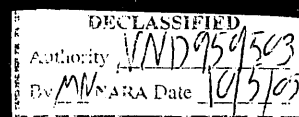
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8-65 DS-322

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA -  
NIGERIA 120

10 JUN 69 14 50z

DISTRIBUTION	ACTION: USMission GENEVA	IMMEDIATE	7
	STATE		
	SUBJ: <del>XXXX</del> Nigerian Relief		
	1. Schott will attend JCA Meeting, Lucerne. Please inform Chenard and reserve single at Schweizerhof Lucerne nights June 11, 12, 13.		
	2. Gutman should remain Geneva and prepare attend Accra Conference.		
	End.		
	[ROGERS]		
DRAFTED BY:	DRAFTING DATE	TEL. EXT.	APPROVED BY:
U/CF:SCSchottasm	6/10/69	6215	U/CF - C. Clyde Ferguson, Jr.
CLEARANCES:			

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05242 101449Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO: OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, AID 28, SRI 01, ORM 03, SCSE 00, SCA 01, UCF 05,

UPW 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, E 15, DOT 12, RSR 01, /181 W  
056879

R 101114W JUN 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7097  
INFO: AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION GENEVA  
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA  
DIA

UNCLAS LAGOS 5242

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JUNE 10 EDITORIAL IN IBADAN NIGERIAN TRIBUNE. EDITORIAL IS COMPARITIVELY CALM AND WELL INFORMED AND PROBABLY REPRESENTS VIEW OF NUMBER OF IMPORTANT NIGERIANS. BEGIN TEXT. ICRC IS REPORTED TO HAVE GIVEN GO-AHEAD TO ITS PLANES BASED IN COTONOU TO RESUME NIGHT FLIGHTS TO REBEL-HELD TERRITORY IN EAST CENTRAL STATE. THIS IS UNFORTUNATE DECISION. ICRC IS, OF COURSE, QUITE AWARE THAT, IN GIVING THIS ORDER, IT IS TAKING GREAT AND UNNECESSARY RISK. FOR IT IS LIKE SENDING PILOTS TO THEIR DEATH FOR NO USEFUL PURPOSE. AND THAT IS HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY WHICH COMMITTEE SHOULD HESITATE TO SHOULDER.

NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BANNED ALL NIGHT FLIGHTS OVER ITS AIR SPACE. LEAST ICRC CAN DO IS TO RESPECT OUR SOVEREIGNTY AND OBEY THAT ORDER OF LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT. NIGERIAN TRIBUNE FEELS FOR SUFFERING NIGERIANS IN REBEL-HELD TERRITORY. IT APPRECIATES INVALUABLE SERVICES WHICH RED CROSS HAS BEEN RENDERING TO VICTIMS OF THIS WAR. BUT WE DO

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05





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NOT WANT TO CONTINUE THIS WAR FOR EVER AND THUS TO CONTINUE  
TO BE WARDS OF RED CROSS INDEFINITELY.

THAT IS WHY NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT MUST DO EVERYTHING TO END  
THIS WAR NOW.

THAT ALSO IS WHY ICRC SHOULD GET OUT OF WAY OF NIGERIAN AIR  
FORCE.  
DOES IT NOT OCCUR TO ICRC THAT ONLY REASON OJUKWU INSISTS ON  
NIGHT FLIGHTS IS THAT HE WANTS TO CONTINUE TO USE  
HUMANITARIAN FLIGHTS AS COVER FOR HIS OWN IMPORT OF ARMS  
AND AMMUNITION? WE DO NOT SHARE THE VIEW THAT THE RED CROSS  
IS COLLABORATOR OF REBEL REGIME.

ICRC CANNOT AFFORD TO RUIN ITS REPUTATION ON ACCOUNT OF ONE  
SECESSIONIST LEADER. BUT WE DO SAY--AND THIS IS NOW BEYOND  
DISPUTE--THAT COLLABORATORS OF REBELS ARE EXPLOITING EVERY  
FACILITY GIVEN RED CROSS BY FMG TO PROLONG THIS WAR. AND  
THAT NONSENCE MUST STOP. END TEXT  
MATHEWS

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, IO 13, EUR 17, AID 28, SR 07, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCSE 00, UPW 01,

UCF 05, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 154 W

057791

R 101135Z JUN 69  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7098  
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN NY  
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS LAGOS 5243

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN PRESS ROUNDUP JUNE 10

1. MAIN NEWS ITEM IN ALL PAPERS IS CONFIRMATION OF REBEL AIR ATTACK AFTERNOON JUNE 8, ON REFUGEE CAMP IN IBUSA, MID-WESTERN STATE. IBUSA EIGHT MILES FROM ASABA ON WEST BANK OF NIGER. ONE PERSON KILLED AND SIXTEEN TO NINETEEN REPORTED INJURED. SIX ROCKETS REPORTEDLY FIRED ON TOWN TWO OF WHICH HIT BUILDING AT ST. THOMAS SCHOOL WHICH HAD BEEN TURNED INTO REFUGEE CAMP MAINLY FOR MID-WESTERN IBOS. REUTERS REPORTING THAT REBELS LAUNCHED AIR ATTACK JUNE 9 AT POL DUMP AT UGWASHI-UKU WHICH IS ALSO IN MID-WEST ABOUT TEN MILES WEST OF IBUSA. NO CONFIRMATION OF THIS YET FROM FMG.

2. TIMES FRONT-PAGES REPORT THAT ICRC FLIGHTS WILL BE RESUMED FROM COTONOU TO REBEL AREAS WITH PILOTS ORDERED TO FLY QYTE IN COMPLETE DARKNESS AND WHEN THERE IS ADEQUATE

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CLOUD COVER UNQTE. FLIGHTS FROM FERNANDO PO REPORTED TO REMAIN GROUNDED HOWEVER. TRIBUNE EDITORIAL CRITICIZING DECISION REPORTED SEPTTEL. POST CARRIES TWO SIGNED ARTICLES CRITICIZING ICRC, LINDT AND PARTICULARLY ICRC REP IN REBEL TERRITORY JAGGI, CALLING LATTER SPY. CALLS ON FMG TO BAN LINDT FROM NIGERIA AND TELL ICRC THAT IF IT WISHES TO CONTINUE ACTIVITIES QTE IT SHOULD MAKE SURE IT SENDS GENUINE RELIEF WORKERS AND NOT SPIES UNQTE. SECOND ARTICLE, TITLED QTE DOUBLE STANDARDS UNQTE IS EXTREMELY BITTER ATTACK ON WESTERN GOVERNMENTS AND PRESS FOR FAILURE TO CONDEMN FORCEFULLY MURDER OF ITALIAN OILMEN AND READINESS TO CONDEMN AND CRITICIZE FMG. JUNE 9 LAGOS RADIO CARRIED LONG COMMENTARY, TITLED QTE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND NIGERIAN CRISIS UNQTE WHICH CRITICIZES USG FOR STATEMENT ON SHOOTING DOWN OF PLANE OVER EKET. CALLS AMERICANS QTE NOTORIOUS DOUBLE-DEALERS UNQTE WITH QTE RECORD OF ATROCITIES IN VIET NAM UNQTE. STATES THAT NAF IS ONLY PROTECTING AIR SPACE OF NIGERIA AND DRAWS CONCLUSION QTE AMERICANS POSSIBLY HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH MISSION OF THIS PLANE (WHICH WAS)... TO DROP BOMBS ON PARTS OF THIS COUNTRY UNQTE. CHARGES THAT QTE ONLY REASON WHY AMERICANS HAVE BEEN PRETENDING THEY DO NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN NIGERIAN CRISIS IS THAT THEY ALREADY BOGGED DOWN IN VIET NAM. NO DOUBT IF THEY HAD CHANCE THEY WOULD TRY TO TURN NIGERIAN CRISIS INTO ANOTHER VIET NAM WAR UNQTE.

3. TIMES AND OBSERVER REPORT VON ROSEN CHARGED IN SWEDEN WITH CONTRAVENING SWEDISH LAWS AGAINST EXPORTING WAR MATERIALS AND RECRUITING SWEDISH CITIZENS TO ACT AS MERCENARIES.

MATHEWS

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Authority	VND959503
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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
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 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05272 101753Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, UCF 05, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07,  
 L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, E 15,  
 COM 08, INT 06, RSR 01, /177 W

058225

R 101610Z JUN 69  
 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7114  
 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 5272

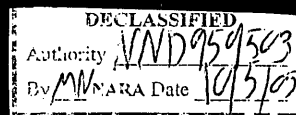
SUBJECT: THREAT TO MIDWEST OIL INSTALLATIONS

REF: LAGOS 4991

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT BRITISH CABLE FCO/LAGOS JUNE 3  
 CONCERNING POSSIBLE ATTACKS ON MIDWEST OIL INSTALLATIONS:  
 QUOTE: READ OF SHELL TOLD HEAD OF WEST AFRICAN DEPARTMENT  
 TODAY THAT STANLEY GRAY HAD HEARD FROM BBC CORRESPONDENT  
 IN LAGOS THAT AN UNNAMED FOREIGN DIPLOMAT HAD SEEN  
 SIR LOUIS MBANEFO WHO HAD TOLD HIM THAT THE NEXT TARGET  
 FOR THE SWEDISH AIRCRAFT NOW FLYING FOR THE BIAFRANS  
 WOULD BE OIL INSTALLATIONS IN THE MID WEST. THE BIAFRANS  
 ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT WOULD NOT ATTACK OIL INSTALLATIONS  
 IN THE EAST AS THEY REGARDED THESE AS THEIR OWN. SHELL ARE  
 CONCERNED ABOUT THIS REPORT. THEY SAY THAT GRAY HAS  
 INFORMED THE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES. YOU MAY WISH IN  
 CONSULTATION WITH HIM TO TALK TO THE FEDERAL MILITARY  
 AUTHORITIES SO AS TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE ALERT TO THE  
 DANGER AND PREPARED AS FAR AS POSSIBLE TO MEET IT. UNQUOTE.  
 COMMENT: WE BELIEVE FMG NOW FULLY ALERTED TO NEED FOR  
 PROTECTION FOR OIL INSTALLATIONS. INTERESTING PART ABOUT  
 ABOVE IS BIAFRAN THOUGHT THAT THEY WILL YET INHERIT EASTERN  
 OIL FACILITIES. THIS COULD EXPLAIN APPARENT LACK OF EFFORT  
 SO FAR TO DISRUPT TRANS NIGERI PIPELINE WHICH RUNS  
 NEAR PRESENT BIAFRAN LOCATION. INEVITABLE RUMORS CIRCULATING  
 IN INDUSTRY THAT SHELL BP PAYING OFF BIAFRANS TO LEAVE

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**TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 0527Z 101753Z

EASTERN FACILITIES ALONE.

GP-4.

MATHEWS

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, UCF 05, UPW 01, AID 28, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 0

SS 20, USIA 12, E 15, IGA 02, AGR 20, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, 195 W  
057997

R 101425Z JUN 69  
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2579  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USUN

CONFIDENTIAL OSLO 2265

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN DELEGATION TO NIGERIA/BIAFRA

REF: OSLO 2085 AND 2134

1. PARLIAMENTARY LEADERS IP DECIDED JUNE 9 NOT GRANT FINANCIAL  
SUPPORT FOR SUBJECT DELEGATION THIS SESSION.

2. FONOFF SOURCE, WITH UNDISGUISED PLEASURE, TOLD EMBOFF DELE-  
GATION IDEA NOW DEAD. HE OBSERVED ITS DEMISE HASTENED BY  
BIAFRAN CAPTURE OF OIL WORKERS, SHOOTING DOWN OF RED CROSS AIRCRAFT,  
AND CONSEQUENT RECOGNITION, EVEN OF PROPONENTS OF DELEGATION, OF

USELESSNESS OF SUCH NORWEGIAN INTERVENTION.

3. DESPITE ABANDONMENT OF DELEGATION IDEA GON INTEREST CONTINUES  
IN HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND COORDINATION THROUGH ICRC AND  
HAGUE GROUP. (FONOFF HAS INFORMED US HAGUE MEETING SCHEDULED  
FOR JUNE 5 POSTPONED AT GERMAN AND ITALIAN INSTANCE AND NOT  
YET RESCHEDULED.  
GP-3. BOVEY

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Poh 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SCS 04, SCA 01,  
UCF 05, UPW 01, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, RSR 01, /154 W  
----- 057414

R 101520Z JUN 69  
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2580  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USUN 122

CONFIDENTIAL OSLO 2270

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN PROPOSAL FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 91957

1. EMBOFF INFORMED ARNESEN (OIC, UN AFFAIRS) JUNE 9 OF  
CONTENTS REFTEL.

① 2. ARNESEN MOST GRATEFUL FOR DEPT'S COMMENTS AND SAID  
HIS VIEWS VERY SIMILAR TO DEPT'S. RE PARA. 2 REFTEL HE  
SAID FONMIN LYNG UNWILLING PERMIT NRC PREEMPT IDEA AND  
FONOFF DEVELOPING SUGGESTION FOR JOINT GON-NRC PROPOSAL.

3. SUBJECT DISCUSSED ONLY IN VERY GENERAL TERMS JUNE 9  
BETWEEN LYNG AND FOREIGN SECRETARY SHARP. FONOFF NOT  
YET DECIDED ON MANNER PRESENTATION. ISTANBUL ICRC MEETING OR UNGA,  
BUT PROMISES KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED.

GP-4. BOVEY

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L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01,

AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCSE 00, SCA 01, RSR 01, /148 W  
056374

R 101135Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1593  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LOME

UNCLAS GENEVA 1852

STATE FOR U/CF

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

UNDER CAPTION "JCA MERCY FLIGHTS CONTINUE" JCA/GENEVA PUT OUT FOLLOWING RELEASE JUNE 9: QUOTE: REPORTS OF TWO JOINT CHURCH AID (JCA) PLANES MISSING OR DAMAGED ON THE NIGHT OF JUNE 5/6 WHILE CARRYING OUT THEIR MERCY FLIGHTS FROM SAO TOME TO ULI ARE UNTRUE. ALL JCA AIRCRAFT RETURNED SAFELY TO BASE THAT NIGHT.

AS ANNOUNCED ON JUNE 4 AN AID BY AIR DC-6 PILOTED BY CAPTAIN V.W. POLLEY OF BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA, WAS HIT ON LANDING AT ULI ON JUNE 2. A ROCKET RICOCHETED AND TWENTY SPLINTERS DAMAGED THE UNDERNEATH OF THE FUSELAGE AND PERFORATED THE FUEL TANKS. DUE TO THE ALERTNESS OF THE CREW THE ENGINES WERE SWITCHED AND AN EXPLOSION PREVENTED. MECHANICS WERE FLOWN INTO ULI, TEMPORARY REPAIRS CARRIED OUT AND THIS DC-6 IS NOW SAFELY BACK ON SAO TOME AWAITING A CERTIFICATE OF AIR-WORTHINESS.

JOINT CHURCH AID DEPLORES THE SHOOTING DOWN OF A RED CROSS AIRCRAFT ON JUNE 5. ITS MEMBER AGENCIES HAVE CONVEYED THEIR DEEP CONDOLENCES TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS, PARTICULARLY NOTING THAT ONE OF THE AVIATORS KILLED HAD FLOWN A NORDCHURCH AID PLANE IN THE JCA OPERATION FOR FIVE MONTHS.

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BELIEVING THAT THE GREATEST TRIBUTE THEY CAN PAY TO THEIR COMRADES WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES TO BRING SUCCOR TO THE STARVING WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF BIAFRA, THE JCA CREWS HAVE DECIDED TO CONTINUE FLYING THEIR AIRCRAFT WHICH CARRY NOTHING BUT RELIEF SUPPLIES AND ARE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE JCA FISH SYMBOL. ON JUNE 7/8 SIX JCA LANDINGS AT ULI CARRIED 79 TONS OF VITAL RELIEF SUPPLIES, MAKING A TOTAL OF 55 LANDINGS WITH 65 TONS OF SUPPLIES FOR THE FIRST SEVEN DAYS OF JUNE.

JOINT CHURCH AID GIVES UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT TO ICRC'S APPEAL FOR SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING AND CALLS UPON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO MULTIPLY ITS EFFORTS TO FIND A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE NIGERIA/BIAFRA CONFLICT WHICH CONTINUES TO CLAIM THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT VICTIMS.  
TUBBY

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AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, /158 W  
058237R 101708Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
SECSTATE WASHDC 1602

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ACCRA ALSO FOR CASHIN/USAID

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: ACCRA 1832

1. ICRC HAD SCHEDULED CONFERENCE ON NIGERIA/BIAFRA RELIEF IN ACCRA TO BE ATTENDED BY ITS CHIEF DELEGATES (COTONOU, LAGOS, BIAFRA, SANTA ISABEL), THEIR PLANNING OFFICERS AND MEMBERS GENEVA ICRC HQ. AMB. LINDT - HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR NIGERIA OPERATION - TO BE CHAIRMAN. VIEW NEW SITUATION CREATED BY FMG SHOOTING DOWN ICRC RELIEF PLANE MEETING HAS BEEN POSTPONED.

2. PURPOSE MEETING WAS ELABORATION PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR OPERATION FROM SEPTEMBER 1969 THROUGH FEBRUARY 1970 (SIX MONTHS).

3. ATTENDANCE ORIGINALLY LIMITED ICRC BUT SUBSEQUENTLY ENLARGED TO INCLUDE JOINT CHURCH AID, UNICEF AND U/CF (GUTMAN)

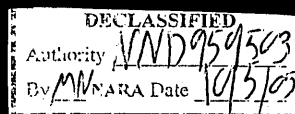
4. ICRC MOST ANXIOUS NO REPEAT NO PUBLICITY WHATEVER, IF AVOIDABLE, RE ACCRA MEETING. ONLY U.S. PARTICIPANT WOULD BE HARVEY GUTMAN. PRESENTLY ON DETAIL TO U/CF (AMB. FERGUSON) WHO RECENTLY ARRIVED GENEVA TO ASSIST ICRC PLANNING EXERCISE AND PROVIDE GENERAL LIAISON RELIEF OPERATIONS.

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TM FREY/ICRC JUST PHONED THAT MEETING PROBABLY WILL TAKE PLACE  
JUNE 16 AND 17 IN ACCRA. IMPLYING THAT USG (LAGOS?) WISHED SEND  
LARGER DELEGATION FREY WANTED TO MAKE POINT THAT ICRC INVITATION  
LIMITED TO ONE U.S. OBSERVER. ICRC-JCA COORDINATING MEETING  
WOULD BE ON/ABOUT JUNE 20 IN GENEVA. TUBBY

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ORM 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,  
P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 152 W  
----- 058847

R 101118Z JUN 69  
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2177  
INFO RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS 624  
USMISSION: GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 630

FOR FERGUSON FROM DAWSON

SUBJECT: RSM

1. ICELANDIC AIR COMPANY FLIGHTFRAG HAS ORDERS TO FLY  
NIGHT JUNE 10 FROM COTONOU. SOME DOUBT WHETHER CREW  
WILL FLY. WILL INFORM.

2. LEIR (BALAIR) WILL NOT RELEASE BALAIR AIRCRAFT FOR FLIGHTS  
AS OF MORNING JUNE 10. EVEN IF A/C RELEASED AIR CREWS PROBABLY  
WOULD NOT FLY WITHOUT INCREASED RISK PAY.

3. COMMENT: DAWSON HAS CLOSE CONTACT WITH C-97 CREWS. THERE  
CONSIDERABLE AMBIVALENCE TOWARD RENEWED FLIGHTS. APPARENTLY  
QUITE A BIT OF PRESSURE ON LEIR FROM BOTH ICRC AND AIRCREWS  
TO RENEW FLIGHTS. KNOX

*Cotonou 630  
6-10-69*

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AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, RSR 01, /152 W  
----- 058279

R 101708Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1604  
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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STATE FOR U/CF

1. ICRC ADVISES COTONOU WILL RECOMMENCE FLIGHTS TONIGHT. ICELAND PLANE WILL MAKE TWO RUNS. BALAIR NOT REPEAT NOT YET READY RESUME FLIGHTS. MEETING SET FOR THURSDAY IN BASEL TO DISCUSS SITUATION WITH THEM.

2. FLIGHT OPERATIONS SANTA ISABEL STILL DOWN BUT ICRC EXPECT START UP SOON. TUBBY

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INFO OCT 01, IO 13, AF 12, RSR 01, RSC 01, /033 W

058297

R 101708Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1603

UNCLAS GENEVA 1865

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: GENEVA 1831, STATE 91179

ICRC CLOSED ACCOUNT POPE PAUL'S VISIT. VAN SOEST ABSENT FROM  
BUBINGEN TILL TOMORROW. EXPECT HAVE ADDITIONAL INFO MEDICAL  
REQUIREMENTS/SUPPLY TOMORROW. TUBBY

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ACTION SS 70

INFO OCT 01,CCO 00,SSO 00,NSCE 00,USIE 00,CIAE 00,071 W  
----- 056094.

O 101135Z JUN 69

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1591

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1850

LIMDIS

FOR AMB FERGUSON U/CF FROM GUTMAN

1. IN COURSE GENERAL DISCUSSION (SEP MESSAGE FOLLOWS) THIS A.M. BERNHARDT/MARKPRESS MENTIONED THAT BIAFRA HOME MINISTER MOJUKWA WILL ARRIVE GENEVA TONIGHT AND WILL LEAVE AGAIN TOMORROW MORNING. (EMPEROR AND ZAMBIA PRES. KUANDA INCIDENTALLY ARE ALSO IN TOWN IN CONNECTION ILO/POPE'S VISIT).

2. FYI: BERNHARDT HAS DIRECT TELETYPE CHANNEL TO BIAFRA AND OFFERED ASSISTANCE PASS COMMUNICATIONS IF AND WHEN WE DESIRE. TUBBY

GENEVA-1850  
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ACTION SS 70

INFO OCT 01, SSO 00, /071 W

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R 101708Z JUN 69  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1605  
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 1867

LIMDIS

STATE FOR U/AMB. C. FERGUSON

SUBJECT: NIGERIA RELIEF

AFTER PREVIOUS PHONE CONTACT GUTMAN CALLED TODAY ON BERNHARDT/  
MARKPRESS. FOLLOWING ARE MAIN POINTS:

1. EXPRESSED BIAFRANS "MAJOR DISAPPOINTMENT" AT LACK ACTION BY  
NEW ADMINISTRATION IN SPIRIT OF PRES. NIXON'S CAMPAIGN STATEMENT  
OF 9 SEPTEMBER 1968 (MARKPRESS RELEASE 300).

2. BIAFRA CONSIDERS USG ESPECIALLY STATE DEPT (INCLUDING FERGUSON)  
PRO-FMG. IN SUPPORT HIS THESIS HE QUOTED FREELY VARIOUS STATEMENTS  
IN AND OUT OF CONTEXT INCLUDING ALLEGED PASSAGE FERGUSON TESTI-  
MONY BEFORE SENATE (SIC) LATE APRIL "POLITICAL INTERVENTION  
(BY U.S.) SHOULD BE RULED OUT ON ACCOUNT BIAFRA'S HOPELESS  
MILITARY SITUATION". REFERRED EXTENSIVELY TO FEBRUARY ISSUE RIFON  
FORUM CONTAINING ATTACKS ON ASSTSEC PALMER AND AMB. MATHEWS AND  
STATEMENTS BY VARIOUS SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES IN FAVOR  
PRO-BIAFRA COURSE.

3. IN CONTEXT RESTATEMENT FERGUSON NON-POLITICAL MANDATE GUTMAN  
ASKED BERNHARDT FOR POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS INCREASE EFFECTIVENESS  
RELIEF ACTION. THIS BROUGHT REQUEST C-130'S AND/OR MORE 97'S.  
WHEN REMINDED THAT BASIC PARAMETER WAS LIMITED NIGHTTIME CAPACITY  
ULI STRIP, BERNHARDT STRONGLY ADVOCATED SECOND LANDING FIELD.  
STATED THAT WORK HAD BEEN UNDER WAY (HE THOUGHT BY CANADIANS)  
AND MADE HIMSELF NOTE DISCUSS STATUS TONIGHT WITH BIAFRAN VISITOR.

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ALSO CLAIMED OJUKWU CONSIDERED SECOND STRIP SOLUTION DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS AS IT COULD BE RESERVED 100 PERCENT FOR USE RELIEF AGENCIES. FMG AIR INSPECTION "OVER BIAFRA TERRITORY WOULD OF COURSE CONSTITUTE INFRINGEMENT LATTER'S SOVEREIGNTY" BUT INSPECTION COULD BE ARRANGED COTONOU, ETC.

4. BERNHARDT CLEARLY WAS NOT UP TO DATE ON WATER CORRIDORS AS HE SPOKE ABOUT NIGER RIVER. GUTMAN MENTIONED (WITHOUT ANY ELABORATION) THAT THERE WAS BASIC BILATERAL AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE RE FEASIBILITY WATER CORRIDOR. AMB. FERGUSON'S EFFORTS TO BE HELPFUL IN SETTLING ON DETAILS HAD BEEN HANDICAPPED BY INABILITY TO SEE OJUKWU ON RECENT TRIP. THIS SEEMED NEWS TO BERNHARDT.

5. BERNHARDT CLEARLY FELT POSSIBLE REDUCTION FLOW RELIEF SUPPLY IN WAKE ICRC PLANE INCIDENT WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT INFLUENCE OJUKWU. WHATEVER IN CHANGING POSITION RE DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS OR LAND CORRIDORS. "FMG SIMPLY IS GIVING NEW EVIDENCE ITS EARLIER STATEMENT AT NIAMEY CONFERENCE THAT STARVATION LEGITIMATE TOOL OF WAR." BERNHARDT STATED THAT STARVATION WAS PREFERRABLE TO CONCESSION ON THESE TWO POINTS IMPLYING STRONGLY THAT DEMONSTRATION OF FMG GUILT FOR MASS MISERY WAS ADDITIONAL OFFSETTING FACTOR.

COMMENT: BERNHARDT IS HANDSOME MADISON AVENUE TYPE HAPPILY AWARE HIS RESEMBLANCE DAVID NIVEN IN LOOKS AND SPEECH. HE IS GOOD TALKER BUT DEFICIENT IN LOGICAL ARGUMENTATION. HIS EMOTIONAL IDENTIFICATION WITH BIAFRAN CAUSE AT TIMES HAS SYNTHETIC RING. HE HAS NO ILLUSIONS THAT BIAFRA CAN WIN WAR MILITARILY. BELIEVE HE CAN BE USEFUL AT TIME TO CONVEY PROPOSALS AND REACTIONS TO OJUKWU. AS HE HAS DIRECT TWX LINE TO BIAFRA. DISCUSSION WAS CORDIAL AND RELAXED. BERNHARDT HOPES MEET AMB. FERGUSON DURING LATTER'S NEXT STOPOVER GENEVA. TUBBY

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